



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

**WEST BRANCH
OF LITTLE RIVER, VT**
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The West Branch of the Little River is located in the Town of Stowe, Lamoille County, Vermont. Stowe is located approximately 20 miles northwest of Montpelier. The study area for the proposed restoration is an 18,000-foot reach of the West Branch, in Stowe.

The drainage area at the upstream limits of the study area is approximately 21 square miles. The existing water resource problem is that the West Branch is unstable, and this instability continues to severely degrade the aquatic habitat ecosystem. Deposition of silts and sediments, erosion of the streambanks, destruction of the riparian buffer and covering of the natural substrate all contribute to the deterioration of the aquatic habitat.

AUTHORIZATION: Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended. (33 U.S.C. 2330)

STATUS: The NY District completed a preliminary restoration report (PRP) in March 2003, which determined that there is Federal interest in continuing into the feasibility phase of study. In a letter dated February 18, 2002, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (VTANR) indicated its willingness to act as the non-Federal sponsor. The position of the potential sponsor at this point in time is unknown.

Subject to the availability of Federal funds and identification of a non-federal sponsor, a feasibility study could be initiated in 2006.

STUDY COST:

Preliminary Restoration Plan (100% Federal)	\$10,000
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Congressional Interest:	Sen. James Jeffords, VT
	Sen. Patrick Leahy, VT
	Rep. Bernard Sanders, VT